# New Bork Daily Tribune.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FAVORITE AUTHORS. A COMPANION BOOM OF PROSE ANY A collection of choice pieces in prose and verse from tinguished English and American authors, including Hawthorne, Tennyson, Browning, Whittier, Leigh Hunt, Miss Mitford, Longfellow, De Quincey, Holmes, Lowell, and many others. The portraits of the various writers form an appropriate conbellishment of the voame, which is brought out in a style of elegant typography, and is well adapted to the holiday season.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS QUOTATIONS FROM THE POETS. Compiled by Rev. WILLIAM RICE, A. M. 370., pp. 338. Carlton & Porter.

An ornamental gift book, consisting of brief extracts from the British poets from the time of Chaucer to the present, and from the poetical writers of our own country. The selections are of a moral and religious character, arranged under appropriate heads, with a view to convenient reference either in private reading and comparison or in preparation for the pulpit and

OUR YEAR; A CRIED'S BOOK IN PROSE AND VERSE. By the Atther of "John Haiffax, Geotleman." limo., pp. 688 Barper & Brothers.

A truly delightful series of juvenile poems and sketches, adapted to each month in the year, with admirable illustrations by Clarence Dobell,

A tempting collection of English gift books may be found among the publications of Routledge, Warne, & Routledge, (Edward Baldwin, New-York Agent), including a sumptuous edition of Poems by ELIZA COOK, (Svo. pp. 408), whose productions, if not of the highest order of intellect, are inspired by the suggestions of a noble beart, and never fail to breathe a lofty spirit of bumanity. The volume is liberally illustrated by a se rice of engravings from designs by J. Gilbert, Harrison Weir, and other eminent artists, and is issued in the finest style of English typography. Another splendic volume is Busyan's Pilgrim's Progress, 8vo. pp. 4081, full of quaint and expressive embellishments, by Wat-son, and engraved with admirable execution and finish by the Brothers Dalvriel. The wonderful conceptions of the Bedford Tinker, have never been embedied in more magnificent exterior, and the edition must con mand the attention of his modern admirers, as well a of the lover of exquisite and dainty typography. For the younger class of readers, the same publishers have issued a Natural History Picture Book, by the Rev. J. G. WOOD, Sketches of Natural History, by the Rev J. C. Atkisson, The Play Book of Metals, by John HENRY PEFFER, and several others equally interesting and attractive. The whole catalogue will richly re ward the attention of the book fancier, and should be examined before selecting the Gifts of the Sesson.

Among the attractive juvenile books recently issued, we may mention The Seven Little Sisters who live o the Round Ball that Floats in the Air, of rare and pleasant fancies, published by Ticknor & Fields; Th. Martin and Nelly Stories, by Josephine Franklin, series of entertaining narratives, handsomely illustrated and the Summer House Series, by the Author of " Vielet," " Dalsy." &c., devoted to the habits of birds and insects, and the resources and pleasures of quiet country life, published by Brown & Taggard; The Fisherman's Boy, The Flower Boy of the Prairie, and others, published by the American Tract Society; The Children's Picture Book of Birds, a popular illustrated ornithology, published by Harper & Brothers.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL

-The last news from the Zambesi expedition is to the effect that the little steamer Ma Robert was totally disabled, and the party headed by Dr. Livingstone had set out on an overland journey direct to the Makololo country. Upon their return from that region, they expected to find a new steamer waiting for them. It such a case, Dr. Livingstone would intraedistely at tempt to reach Nyassa by means of the River Ro which is said to take its rise in that lake, and to be navigable for more than one hundred leagues. The members of the extedition were in good health.

-A letter from Guillaume Lejean, dated Khartoum Ang. 2, brings us the information that, owing to the bosile relations existing between the whites and the river tribes of the White Nile, the French geographe has abandoned his iden of ascending the river in company with one of the armed carnyons. He had resolved, instead, to leave Khartonm on the 6th of August for Kordofan, where he would be able to sequein himself with the character of the Government and peo ple of Darfour. From Kordofan he intended, if the project proved to be at all practicable, to continue his march to the south-east, and to strike the White Nile again some two degrees north of the line.

-On the 22d of July Captain Fischer of the Chilian brig Tubal Cain, discovered a new island eighty-five marine niles off the coast of Chic. It lies between Valparoiso and Coquimbo, exactly in the route pursued by vessels passing round Cape Hom. The island is from fifteen to twenty marine miles in length, its highest elevation is from 200 to 250 feet above the sea; and its central point is situated in south lat, 31° 40' and west long, 73° 26'. Captain Fischer believes it to be of recent formation, by means of volunic action, for it hes in such a frequented part of the ocean and is so large that, unless lately formed, it must have before this found its way into the charte.

-Captain Speke, with his companion Captain Grant, and the rest of the new Eastern African Expedition arrived at Zanzibar a little after the middle of Septem ber. They immediately left for the interior, and a the latest accounts they were, on October 1, at Camp Bagamoya. Capt. Speke writes that he hopes to meet Mr. Consul Petherick at or near Gondo Koro, on the Nile. But the funds raised for this gentleman's proposed exploration to the south of Khartoum, are not yet sufficient to warrant his setting out, although the Foreign Office and Royal Geographical Society have each subscribed £100.

-Duveyrier still continues his arduous labore in the Sahars. He hast just sent to the Geographical Society at Paris an itinerary of his journeys during the first half of the present year. After a short excursion to Constantine, he left Biskra on the 1st of February, and set out for Nafta. Once at Nafta he determined to explore the interesting regions which surround El Djerid, a remarkable tract covered with a saline incrustation, and formerly connected with the sea in the character of a lagoon. Duveyrier, on the 7th of July, was at Songourt, but would probably leave for Ghadames on the 19th or 20th of that month, and pass some time at that casis. He mentions the discovery of several Roman inscriptions, and gives some details of the meas-

proments of hights and distances which he has made. The paper of Capt. Maury, read before the Royal Geographical Society in London, November 26, was listened to by a very large audience. His subject was "The Physical Geography of the Sea, more particuburly in connection with the climatology, etc., of the Amarctic Regions." He repeated at greater length the reasons which he gave in his letter to the littish Association for believing that the southern pole was surrounded by a tract where a comparatively mild cumate prevailed, and he urged upon the English Government and the Geographical Society the necessity of an expedition to explore the interior of the great Astarctic continent. The greatly enlarged and much revised edition of Capt. Maury's work on the sea, which he has just based at London, under the somewhat altered title of "The Physical Geography and Melcarology of the Sea," has been warmly welsomed by the

... The recent letter received by Mr. Grinnell from Mr. Hall announces the total loss of his bont, which had been built expressly for his voyage to King William's Land. Mr. Hall, however, by his enthusiwas and activity had been enabled in a measure to re- composes. Dr. Friedrich Mose directs to prepare a

pair this loss, and had arranged a boat party to explore the interior, and to reach if possible the scene of the melancholy disaster which overtook the members of Sir John Franklin's expedition. The party included two native Eskimoss, to replace the deceased Kudlago, who, it will be rembered, had been engaged to act as guide and interpreter.

-In the year 1820 the subject of Russian encroachments in Norwegian Finmara was the cause of a lively interclange of notes between Charles XIV. of Sweden and the Emreror Alexander. The topic has been revived by the Scandinavian press in connection with a new map of Finland by Maj. Althau, very recently published by the Topographical Bureau at St. Petersburg. This official map actually annexed a strip of territory more than seventy English miles in width to the Russian dominions. The boundary hae is removed from Jakob's River to the mouth of Pasvig's River, and embraces one of the deep bays which run into the land from the Waranger fjord, and which the Russian traders and fishermen in the vicinity have long desired to possess.

-It will be remembered that Dr. Beke denied in strong language the credibility of the accounts given by M. d'Abbadie of his travels on the Upper Nile. The French traveler has now published the first part of a work called "Resumé Géodésique de l'Ethiopie," in which he gives the name of 800 localities visited by him on the upper waters of the Egyptian stream, of which he determined the latitude and lengitude of some 200. He asserts that he devoted 774 days of travel to his Nilotic explorations, and reached the true source of the

-In France a work entitled "Otaîti" is announced; written by Dr. Cazent, who passed more than three years in the Society Islands. His book will embrace an account of the topography, ethnology, geology, fauna, flora, and language of that group, far more satisfactory than any yet published. On the other side of the chan nel the Messrs. Black promise a new work of Arctic travel from the pen of Sir John Richardson, to be styled "The Polar Regions."

SCIENCE, INDUSTRY, AND INVENTION.

Cocain.-The earliest travelers in Peru and the neighboring South American countries give account of the use among the natives of the coca braves as a mean of stimulus and intoxication. The Indians chew the eaves mixed with lime or ashes, and the plant-an athroxylon-is extensively cultivated as tobacco is more enlightened(!) countries. The moderate use of coca is accompanied with a gentle excitement, and enables the partaker to endure long abstinence from food, and to sustain the severest bodily efforts. In excess, it gives rise to all the terrible consequences of narcotic poisoning, and these are not unfrequently met with among its native devetoes. Various attempts have been made to discover the active principle of this plant; but these have bitherto remained fruitless, ither on account of want of chemical skill or lack o afficient material. The frigate Novara, which som rears since was sent out by the Austrian Government on a scientific expedition, having brought back a large pantity of the coca leaves at the instance of Prof. Woehler of Göttingen, this chemist caused them to e investigated by his assistant, Niemann, who suc eeded in isolating a white crystalizable substano naving the properties of an alkaloid. This organic base has been named Cocain, in conformity with chemical terminology. It has great similarity to Atropina, the active principle of Beiladonna and Stramonium. It differs, however, in compesition, and dee not cause expansion of the pupil when placed upon the eye. It has a bitter taste, and renders insensible, for a time, the spot where it touches the tongue. It will undoubtedly find use ere long in medicine—the art of systematic

BEER POISONED BY ADDITION OF WATER .- When water is added to finished beer, i. e., to beer which has passed through all the stages of legitimate manufacture, and is ready for market, its effect is, not only to dilute, but also to render the same more bitter and narcotic.

A mild-brewed beer is far less injurious to health than a strong beer reduced to the same strength, or "ex-tended" by addition of water. The following experimental evidence has been adduced to support the above statement: When pure and good brown beer is evanorated on a porcelain plate, a syrupy residue remains, which has no bitter taste, and placed on the pupil of the eye of an animal (a cat for example), does not ause the same to expand; the residue of good beer is ccordingly, not stopefying, and not damaging to the health of those who imbibe it. If, now, the same beer has added thereto one-third its volume of spring or well water, and then be evaporated as before, the rupy residue is bitter to the taste, and placed on the cat's eye, produces at once a widening of the papil, leaving the same effects upon the eye as are caused by the terrible poison of the belladonna and stramonium The reason which is assigned for these results is as follows: The narcotic principle of the hop is so chemially combined with the sugar and extract in a good eer, as to be inert, while dilution of the same destroys this combination, and developes the stupefying effect of the lupulin, or active principle of hops. Thus far ou tonic original, who furnishes a most interesting text or a discourse on the hop-beverage. So far as our experience runs, a good beer, viz: One not bitter, is a arity even in Germany itself; and one which does not narcotize is absolutely unbeard of. In fact, the slight stupidity that follows a glass of beer is often considered the useful effect, especially so far as exclusive and nervous persons are concerned. The result of adding well water, even though it be again removed by evap pration is very remarkable, if true; and must be caused by impurity of the water. The explanation offered clucidates the necessity of sugar in sangurees, and accounts for the better health of the Englishman who swallows porter, than of the German who floods him-

WEATHER-PROOF CORDAGE.-Cordage which is inployed in thatching, for tying vines to trellises, or is otherwise exposed to moisture, may be made very arable in the following manner: It is first souked for half an hour in a strong solution of gine, then taken out, dried somewhat, and immersed for one to two hours in a strong and warm decection of oak-bark, to which some catechu is added. After removal from the oak liquor the cordage is dried, and finally smoothed by rubbing with an oiled cloth, upon which it assumes the appearance of catgot, and perfectly withstands the action of moisture.

SORGHUM RED.-The sorghum has long been emleved in China us the source of a red pigment or dye, latterly the following process has been patented in Germany for the preparation of the coloring principle of this plant, which is largely in use in some parts of Europe as a fodder and a source of alcohol. The vagars crushed stalks from which the juice has been pressed out) is left to itself for some time until a species fermentation has set in, in consequence of which the ness assumes a brown-red color. It is then dried and ground, and the powder is digested for twelve hours in cold river-water. The water is then removed by preare from the vagasse, and the latter is covered with a ery dilute sods or potash lye, which disselves the doring matter, and from this solution it may be separated by neutralization with a tillute acid. It is then washed with water and dried. This pigment i oluble in alkalies, acids, and alcohol. Salts of tin form the appropriate mordant for this color, which is durable

PREMAREST STARON PASTE. The chemist frequent requires a solution or paste of starch for the dete tion of fodine as well as to indicate the completion of many analytical reactions by help of fodide of potass um. It is usual to prepare such a paste whenever wanted by heating starch with water to boiling, and either filtering the liquid or letting it stand to clear itself. The paste thus made cannot be kept for more than a short time without losing its delicacy as a test for iodine, and in warm weather shortly moulds and de-

starch-paste that may be indefinitely preserved, by sim- | and the mud-colored complexion of everything, has ply adding pure common salt to the ordinary paste when reshly nade, in as large quantity as it will dissolve. The reason why this procedure is effective doubtless lies in the fact that ferment cells (yeast) cannot develops in such a cense solution, being expanded and broken by endosmosc.

TO BLEACH OLD YELLOW SPOTTED ENGRAVINGS OR PRINTED PAPER .- Prof. Girup Besanez employs Ozone with excellent success, as follows: Into a large glass vessel warm water is introduced, and then bits of phosphorus, so that the latter are but two-thirds immersed. The articles to be bleached are now introduced, having been previously proistened. The vessel is stoppered. After the expiration of 48 hours they are usually bleached completely. As soon as the decired effect is obtained the papers must be removed, otherwise the ink itself may be destroyed,

NEW ALKALL .- Prof. Bunsen of Hiedelberg, in the ourse of some very interesting remarks on the characer of the light yielded by the alkali-metals, has shown that the spectrum furnishes most characteristic, as well se extraordinarily-sensitive tests for the presence of Potassium, Sodium, and Lithium. The latter metal he finds to be one of the most widely-diffused of the elements, and its quantity is vastly greater than has been hitherto supposed. In a gallon of the mother liquors of a salt-spring he obtained one-half an ounce of the pure carbonate of this hitherto rare substance. But the most important fact that transpired during these investigations was the detection of a new alkali. This was found in several natural waters. The full history of its discovery has not yet transpired, nor has it even re ceived a name. We shall hereafter give an account of ts characters, method of preparation, &c.

### PERSONAL.

-THE TRIBUNE desires to do honor to one of the fant demigods of New-England-Charlie Champlin of Hartford-who at the childish age of 13 has lived a full n anhood of generous heroism. On Monday forenox an intensely cold day—a little son of Dr. Mettler, skating on the "Little River," broke through and disappeared under the ico. The boy Champlin witnessed necident and ran to the rescue. He mot the body of his little friend floating rapidly under and against the transparent and yielding ice, whirled about, and rushed in a straight line a little way below, where was a cake of strong old ice, seated himself safely upon this, and commenced kicking the weak ice to pieces in front of him with his boot-heels. By the time the fleating and dying form reached the hole of resene this wise and rendy-witted child had made for it, Chartie dropped down to his waist in the water. With the last instinct of life little Mettler clung to his toet. Lifting himself to his seat again. Charlie fastened upon his charge, frew him to the opening, and pulled him out of death into life. Twice before, while living at Higganum, in the Summer of 1859, this same brave lad jumped into the Connecticut River and rescued other boys while struggling in deep water.

- The King of Holland incurred some danger a few days back, when going by special train from Amsterdam to Arnheim. Just on entering the station of the latter place, the engine driver perceived a carriage standing across the line. Being so near that it was imossible to stop, he had the presence of mind to put on full steam, and dashed the obstacle to shivers without the slightest shock to his own train. Neither the King nor any of his suite suffered the least injury.

-The shooting of the Marquis of Salisbury was in this wise: He had shot a rabbit, and was taking it up when another rabbit passed. Colonel Taylor, M. P. who was one of the party, not seeing his lordship, fired at the passing rabbit, when a portion of the shot struck the left leg of the Marquis. After the accident the Marquis was conveyed to Hatfield House, with the assistance of his friends, in a pony chaise,

-The young De Forest who so mysteriously disapcared three years ago from the Metropolitan Hotel in his city, has comfortably turned up. The last Australian mail brought letters which place beyond doubt the fact that he is alive and in his right mind. His experience, as related by himself, is most interesting, and in a condensed form we present it to our readers. Coming o this city, he put up at the Metropolitan Hotel While there he became oppressed with the feeling that his friends no longer loved him or cared for him, and that t ey would be glad to know of his death. Having amyle means with him, he procured a passage to Sat Francisco under an assumed name, and departed thither. leaving behind him his entire wardrobe and all the money he had over, to the amount of \$500. While on the passage, he found to his infinite terror that he wa known in early life as factory hands in his native village, and deeming that he had been discovered, he resumed his own name and ever after retained it. He landed at San Francisco with nothing to do, with no friends, and without money. Consequently he suffered much, not only from privation, but from the inclemency of the weather, and was heartily glad of an opportunity to earn his board and lodging on a ranch at some ance from the city. Not content, however, with this Life, he made a successful attempt at teaching school, as he was a graduate of Yale College. At that he con-tinued a year, by which time he had saved sufficient to enable him to buy a passage ticket for Australia, to which point he had determined at the outset to go. He at once found employment in the High School at Melomme as a Professor, referring the Trustees to Yale College for his identification. During all this time his mind was terribly exercised and his heart most keeply incerated by the thought that his friends rejoiced in his departure. Supposing that those who had recognized m on the stenmer would have written home, he watched carefully the Eastern papers for advertisements, but seeing none, caucladed that he was indeed raken by all whose affection be prized.

Ample funds have been remitted to Melbourne, and De Forrest will, in the course of the year, start homeward via India and the Continent.

-The celebrated French dramatist, M. Scribe, has just retired from authorship on an income of more than \$7,000 a year, the fruit of his literary labors. Over the portice of his country seat, the chateau of Serie court, is the following inscription:

Le theatre payé cet asyle champetre. Vous qui possez saint : Je vous le dels peut-être - Prince Louis, who is to marry Queen Victoria's cond daughter, suctains the same relation to the reign ing Duke of Herse Darmstadt as the husband of the Princess Royal to the King of Prussin. In each State the sovereign is childless, and each of the two sisters will be the wife of the son of his brother, the heir prosumptive. Prince Louis will be 24 years of age next September. He has the rank of a captain in the Prasian service, and is titular colonel of a Russian Hussar regiment. He is distantly related to the foolish and granuical Elector of Hesso Cassel, who has just discived the Hessian Chambers, and who will certainly have to join the Duke of Modens and the Grand Duke of Tuscany before he is much older.

- The London correspondent of The Liverpool Altion says that the erratic Eugénie has been left in poace at Claridge's, ever since her return from that flyng and yet very cramped visit she made to Windsor, with a precipitably suggestive of a call on Mr. Harrison Alnaworth's Hearne the Hunter rather than on the Queen of England and her solemn consert, who didn't even put on his Pield-Marshal's uniform for the recep tion of the bride of the victor of Solferino. She was at the Castle hardly long enough to wish Princess Alice the usual compliments on her approaching nuptials with the young Hossian, who will, of course walk into Mr. Bull for the outfit, and infit too, which is very unfit. It is said by certain people, that is to say there is no saying anythir g with certainty about it, that Eugénie departs for Paris on Monday. The improvement in her health from her sojourn in these Elysian isles, this haleyonic and hygienic weather, which is enough to give an Esquimanx the blue devils with the blue moldiness of the atmosphere not been very perceptible, the improvement in her temper altogether invisible. It would be rather odd were it otherwise, considering stubbing she has received at the hands of husband's late and present laquais de place, Persigny and Flabault, and all the subordinate enabbery of the Legation, not a flunkey of whom has gone near her any more than if she were the wife of a lifth-rate actor from the Porte St. Martin, which perhaps she wishes ate were. Wonderful is the change in the Emprese since the days, only half-a-dozen years ago, when Mademoiselle Montijo electrified the British downgers, male and female, of the Place Vendôme, as a crack shot with her saloun pistol; smaking eigarottes like a Custilian or a Clarendon, and vaulting en cavaller into the addle-sent of a Barbary prancer, witching the world with noble equestrionism in a fashion that would have caused Rarey to caper like a comic contaur-a haus nature that would assuredly make a horse laugh, and a hippopotamus to boot. Woe for the time when the Zingarified beauty went gipsying in the woods of Rambouillet, gathering new and cracking jokes, with her merry mamma, who little dreamt of becoming motherit-law to an ogre; nor, to be sure, did the ogre dream of baving a mother-in-law, rather than face whom h would give battle single-handed to a flying squadron of dragons, or a squadron of flying dragons.

-The Empress paid an unexpected visit to the British Museum on Saturday afternoon, and was conducte through the various spartments appropriated to the exensive collection of books of Mr. Panizzi, the principa librarian. Her Majesty expressed her admiration o the noble proportions of the magnificent new reading room, and appeared to be highly interested in the de-tails of the arrangements for incilitating the supply of books of reference to the numerous readers. After aspecting the other departments of the national col lection, the Empress departed, the visit being of so private a nature that many of the students in the readng-room were not even aware that it had been mede. The Empress also visited the cattle show on Saturday accompanied by the Duke of Atholl and her suite, and the stewards, Mr. B. T. Brandreth Gibbs and Mr. Boulnois. On Friday evening the Empress, attended by her usual suite, honored Madame Tuscaud with a lengthened visit of two hours, and made a complete aspection of the numerous elligies and other objects ntained in the callery, with which she appeared much evatified. Her Majesty's arrival being totally unex pected, no preparations had been made for her visit. She preserved a strict incognito, and was scarce recognized by the company assembled in the rooms.

-Spohr's violin, a Stradivarius, we are assured, almost unique in quality, is in the market in London.

-At the soirée of the Birmingham Freehold Land and Building Societies, Mr. Bright made an elaborate attack on the laws of primogeniture and entail, and on the anomalies of the law relating to the titles to and transfer of landed property. He depicted, in sombre language, the cvils which, in his opinion, arise from the existing state of things, and predicted that the most lorious results would follow from what is tormed the emancipation of the soil." The meeting passed resolutions condemnatory of the present laws which "in terfere with the natural and free division of the soil."

-The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge has given noice that the subject for the Chancellor's gold medal for the present year is, "The Prince of Wales at the Tomb of Washington." The exercises are to be sent in to the Vice-Chancellor on or before March 31, 1861, and are not to exceed 200 lines in length. -Garibaldi, in his retirement at Caprers, but sent

away all the aides de-camp who accompanied him, and has now with him only his son and daughter, his friend Deideri, and his private Secretary, Basso. The mass of latters he receives from all parts of the world is enormous, and some of them contain strange propositions. Dr. Riboli, a distinguished physician of Turin. and a great partisan of phrenology, has written to Garbuldi entreating him to allow his head to be examined smarking that he believes it to be the best organized and the most remarkable known. A sad event has occurred in the island. The son of the Colonel of the Italian Legion at Monte-Video passed some days on a visit with the General, and as the Colonel was an old friend and companion-in-arms of Garibaldi in America, every attention was shown the young man. When the moment for departure arrived, the latter seemed quite in destair at the idea of leaving, and on entering a boat which was to convey him to a vessel, he pulled out a pistol, and before any one could prevent him, discharged it in his breast. Garibaldi, hearing the report, burried up, and did all he could for his guest, who, bowever, expired in a few hours. No other reason can be assigned for this rash act than that the young man's enthusiasm for Garibaldi was so great that he ould not bear to be separated from him.

-Ledra Rollin has been made the victim of a burglary in London. He lost among other things the following articles, for the recovery of which a reward of £10 has been offered: A gold smelling bottle, a gold penholder, bearing the inscription, "A Ledra Rollin, Le circle Republicain de la Sarthe, 1849;" a pearl necklace, with a gold clasp; and an ivory and silver cigar case, inscribed, "A Lodru Rollin, les Patriotes de la Sterauld, 1849." The estimated value of the articles enumerated above is about £60.

-The cup given by the Prince of Wales, to be shot for by members of the Oxford University Rifle Corps, has been gained by Mr. T. Lee Warner, scholar of

-It having been rumored in Memphis that Hernan was one of the Lincoln challengers at the election, in this city, the Boy was obliged to purchase a certificate f "soundness" at the office of The Avalanche. That paper declared: " Heenan is a straight-out Democrat, of the Mozart Hall School; and, lately, while in Springfield, Ill., refused to cell upon Old Abe. We deem it due to him to state this much, as we have positive knowledge of the facts."

-The Hon, Mr. Vinton once said the threat of secession reminded him of a man in Buffalo who fastened an old scow to the stern of a steamer, to be towed up the lake. After the boat had got under way her wheels threw water into the scow, and she was in danger of sinking. The owner cried out to the captain, " Hold on there! If you don't stop throwing water into this seow, I'll make you." "Well," says the captain, "what will you do?" "Do?" shouted the enraged man, "I'll cut the rope, and let your old steamboat go to thunder."

# SKATING.

The Broadwayfaring man has had a new experience introduced into his peripatetic and kaleidoscopic life. The current of the promonade has been broken by a fresh and vital element. Figures appear in the motley crowd whose motion is inspired by a principle unknown in common locomotion. They glide swiftly. They skate up town and down, on skates that art has con trived for the parior. Wheels, flexibly adjusted, supng motion of real skating is gained, without the cruel ecompariment of frost. From the parlor, where carets and furniture are sacred and the expenses of an vening skate are almost as apt to be considerable as hose of a weekly jam of beauty and fashion, juvenile that has carried this clever invention into the street. Fleets of nice little boys are occasionally met under full steam, voyaging through the perilous strake of crinoline. The plain podestrian craft give way before them, and they leave a wendering wake, and sometimes a foam of indignation. As yet the movement is confined to the juveniles, but it is not unreasonable to predict a day when it will be universally embraced. Then all out-of-loors will skate. The Wall-street men will glide to Wall street with heavy and dignified undulaions. Clerks and frantic speculators in rises and falls will proceed to the duties and responsibilities of the day with eccentric and airy curvetting. After 12, Fashion will come and go with light swells. What

not the ladies adapt their toilette to the new step! What brilliant picturesqueness and agreeable grace will not be added to the sidewalk vision! Ingenuity of invention will of course keep pace with the growing requirements and enlarged capacities of the public. A few trades will suffer-the bootmakers most, the proprietors of stage and railway lines a good deal. Every

great invention has strangled a trade or two. We may not step fur beyond the threshold of this new dispensation, to wander down the far-stretching vistas. The Parlor Skates are the triumph of a very popular art over the obstacles nature throws in the way of its xercise. They plainly teach the general esteem in which skating is held. A fickle climate gives us only tentalizing tastes of the natural luxury, compounded of littering crystals and tingling air. Ice, in the latito le, is uncertain and treacherous. Art steps in with her skillful expedient, and makes a brave show of her wheels. She tells the lover of the sport that he may kick up his beels in the face of old Borens, and may challenge the sun to thaw the pavement over which be rolls. Science goes beyond this, and is prepared to furnish an excellent article of ice on application to the laboratory. The true skater will have none of this. His roul is filled with Nuture, and will not endure such inducious meddling with her plans. He scorus the new invention. Skate with wheels on carpet or stone! As well forego the horse as a noble instrument of buman exercise, and take to the hebby! As well swim in billows of painted canvas, like the lorn mariners in the

Amateurs will be too ready to grasp any plan by which they can compromise with the hardship and ex osure that are weakly supposed to attend the pleasurable process of skating. The artist knows that the elastic motion is the least ingre lient in his cup of pleasure; he knows that the rushing air, the flashing ice, the light of sun or moon working as inimitable tapestry around him, the song of the captive waters below him, the sudden dangers and nervous escapes, the tempting spot marked "dangerous!" the fleeting figure that must be caught, tip the clixir with a healthy madness. But all those upon whom the necessity of seasonable exercise is just beginning to dawn-who have experienced the muscular grace of the latter-day religion-will be glad enough to do their little skating on wheels; and the sport was so nearly admitted to the parrow circle of hearty sports that are fashionable, and it is such a noble and honest sport, and one so full of the most charming graces, that we are tempted to cry out for one real cold Winter. Where are the old fashioned Winters, when they reasted oxen whole on the ice, and navigation was confined to the land? Just one of those stinging seasons would restore the dignity of skating, wake up our hesitating youth to its glorious advantages over the languid and empty dissipation of ball-rooms and supper-rooms, and indefinitely postpone that moving condition of society which the eye of our Broadwayfaring Man foresaw at the opening of this

The last few sharp days has precipitated us into the skating season. The rare sir had already thrown the people upon their resources for open air amusement. The cavalcade at the Park thinned away in those nipping days that were blown in among the balms of the Indian Summer, and only the hardiest pedestrians, the friends of Nature in all her moods, tracked their way over the bare solitudes. The Pond had heard its swan-song for the season, but one night lent it an attraction which the Summer songs of its rippling waters did not possess. All about Boston the Winter is a gala. The intellectual people of that region are the readiest of Americans to descend from their proud eminence of learning and taste, and indulge in the flexile sports. Professors row their own wherries there. The art of skating is there advanced. There are societies. Ladies desert caudle and Doreas, and, buckling on the skates, fly before the wind like nymphs let loose. Nature is aided in the beautiful suburbs with artificial pends and extemporized waters. There are feminine sweepstakes on the ice, and it is calculated that the champions of the world are there. Shall New-York beauty and sgility weakly yield?

The old city of Philadelphia leads us any distance. The Schuvlkill River, devious, smooth, and at all points romantie, has advantages which we can only covet. A fully equipped club, numbering hundreds of mem bers, is now in breathless expectation of the first hard freeze. It not only provides for the extremest pleasures, but also for the roughest perils of the sport. It insures almost absolute safety to the most adventurous or the most unfortunate, by a complete system of coils and poles, the management of which, in any emer-gency, it is part of the discipline of every member of the club to learn thoroughly; and when the glassy surface of the stream creaks and snaps with the weight of thousands, or when a great crowd follows the evolucerted action of all the members who are present guards the people from the disastrous effects of their own too eager excitement or too reckless intrepidity. The annals of this club show that by a few of the most simple mensures hundreds of lives have been rescued from the

The Pond in the Central Park, although not too ample in accommodation, is its great feature this Winter. It is now the scene of very natural iollity. and the consciousness that the police will preplace of our most fashionable skaters, as the Mall is the resort of the fashionable equestrians. What a wise provision is this for the health and good humor of the people! What joys of the heart must twinkle over the ervstal floor! Panoramas of exhilaration-gay colors flitting through the prismatic air-eyes durting like stars in the horizon-cheeks rosy and lips the samemerry laughter, cries of surprise and triumph, and, over all and with all, the ringing melody of the skatee!

In the moonlight such a picture gots a fairy frame. Each gliding figure has a vague glory of its own. Each is surrounded with a halo of romance. Old songs. old tales, old dreams, old lover-sil softened, all hallowed-go over the ice with the skater. who is inspired with wonderful fancy. It is a magnificent Ball, without the saff cation, the weariness, the jealousy, the crushed flowers, the cold in the head. Next morning, instead of a dull throb in the temples, a languor in the lhubs, and disappointment in the heart, there is clearness of sight, courge, a new strength and a new spirit.

And so, welcome Jack Frost and his knitting fingers, now that he has come in good earnest!

THE NORTH ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH EXPEDITIONS.

The expeditions sent out during the Summer respectively by the Government and the promoters of the North Atlantic Telegraph, to examine the practicability of carrying a line of telegraph from Europe to America via Farce, Iceland, and Greenland, have at length returned, having successfully accomplished their arduous mission. The steamers Buildog and Fox, left England at a season almost too far advanced for northern navigation, and encountered an Autumn of unusual storminess, followed by a Winter which, for its earliness and severity, was almost unprecedented in those latitudes, but they have, nevertheless, most sucressfully proved the ultimate practicability of the North Atlantic line. Although the season was severe, and is every respect the most unfavorable for the route that has occurred for nearly half a century, the difficulties encountered were not such as could prevent or retard the successful establishment of the line, but such as the present knowledge of the electric telegraph such as the present knowledge of the electric folograph can overcease. Her Majecty's sing Buildog, under the cumunal of Sir Leopold M'Clintock, left England for the purpose of examining the depths of the san between the rations stations on the proposed route. The depths, from his careful examination, have preved altocether more favorable for the laying of a cable than those on which she former American cable was successfully submerged, the water being 400 fathers less in its deepest parts. The Buildog left the north of Scotland on the lat of July for the Farce Labrade, taking soundings about midway. Fashion will come and go with light swells. What revolutions will not be created in the whole cliquette of the street! By what delightful curtailments will fathous, but facing seandings readily in 204 fathous

with a favorable botton—a depth in which the laying of almost any kind of cable would be a matter of certainty. In scunding across to Ingolshofdi, in Iceland, no difficulties were experienced, the average depth being under 300 fathoms, and the bottom being mostly of a favorable character. Faxe Bay, on the northwest coast of Iceland, notwithstanding the popular belief to the contrary, was found to be as free from ice and icelety as as the shores of the laie of Wight. From Iceland to Greenland, nerves the Greenland Sea, the soundings were, as had been expected, found by the Bulldog to be desper than on the Iceland and Faroe section of the route, but still the greatest depth was far less mearly 900 fathoms) than the despest portion of the direct route. The charts of Manby and Scoresby represent the sea as impenetrably covered with ice in this region; but no ice was found away from the shore. The Bulldog stood along the coast, sounding occasionally, nearly as far as Prince Christian Sound, when a gale of wind compelled her to stand off shore, and cease taking soundings, from July 19 to Aug. 18, the wind driving out the drift ice from the buys and flords, and preventing the Bulldog, on account of her paddles, from approaching the coast. Eventually she entered Godhaab. There were eight gales in a fortnight, and the quantity of loose drift ice on the coast was greater, according to the information of the Danish residents, than had been seen for many years. Coasting south ward to Capte Farewell, a line of soundings was begun as near to the hand as the ice would allow, and carried thence to Hamilton Inlet, on the onest of Labrador. The depths between the two points were very regular, the greatest being 2,032 fathoms, 400 fathoms less than the direct route across the Atlantic. Very hitle ice was seen on the Labrador coast. On the return voyage, a recond series of coundings were carried from Han itton Inlet to South Greenland, where carried from Han itton Inlet to South Greenland, where carried from Han itton Inlet to Sou carried from Han liten Inlet to South Greenland, where the Buildog anchored, in Julianarab, on the 22th of September. The weather she had experienced during her voyage from Labrador was most severe; she en-countered no less than five gales of wind in eight days. A cursory examination of some of the deep fords, her voyage from Labrador was most severe; she has countered no less than five gales of wind in eight days. A currory examination of some of the deep fords, which run inland for a considerable distance, showed several which were deemed admirably adapted for the reception of the cable. On the 8th of October, the Bulhlog again approached the coast of Greenland, close to the entrance of Prince Christian Sound, at the extreme south end of Greenland, and found so little ice that her commander commenced taxing a line of soundings in toward the flord. His intention, however, was trustrated by the springing up of one of those terrific easterly hurricance, which occasionally sweep the coast of Greenland, before which for three days the vessel gradually drifted southward, under bare poles, till clear of the land. While the torm was at its light the engine seemed to have nardly any effect upon the ship. After the abatement of the gale the Bulklog continued her line of soundings back to Keikparik, in Iceland, but was subject to almost continuous interruptions from gales of wind. The few to Reikjavik, in Iceland, but was subject to almost continuous interruptions from gales of wind. The few souncings which could be made were of the most satisfactory character, a depth of only 748 fathoms being found where it was expected to find 2,400. The return soundings were of a peculiarly interesting character in a scientific point of view, inasmuch as they set at rest the long disputed question of the existence of animal life at great depths in the ocean. Several starlish were brought up from the depth of 1,260 fathoms, which had become entangled with the lower portions of the line, which had lain upon the bottom. The Bulldog left Reikjavik on the 25th of Chebber averaging on her honeward voyage a con-October, experiencing on her homeward voyage a con-stant succession of foul wind, with frequent very heavy gales, which retarded and in some instances completely gak's, which retarded and in some instances completely prevented her sounding operations. Sir Leopold M'Chintock carried his line of soundings into the Rockall Bank, and on the 9th of November obtained bottom in 1,319 fathoms, about mid-channel between it and the Vidal Bank. The soundings very often showed that the understantum of the bottom was composed of entirely different material from that which lay upon the surface, and which is usually brought up by the rod or lead in ordinary deep-sea soundings. The expedition of the Fox was litted out at the extense of the promoters of the understaning, and was intended not alone to cooperate with the Buildog in the sounding and general survey of the seas which intersect the various stations on the route, but also to fix upon and examine the precise localities for the landing of the cables, as well as to explore and fix upon the overland route through Leland and Greenland. It was commanded by Captain Allen Younge, who accompanied M'Chinthrough Iteland and Greenland. It was commanded by Captain Allen Younge, who accompanied M'Clin-tak in the celebrated voyage of the Fox in search of the Franklin expedition. Her croise, like that of the Bulldoy, was in its main results entirely successful, though her operations were retarded, and in some measure prevented, by the almost unparalleled suc-cession of gales which prevailed with out little inter-micion from the time of her departure till her return to England. Dr. Ray, who went out in her, to ex-amine the route for the land line, surveyed Strome Island, and crossed Iceland from Beru Fiord to Reik; javik, nearly 450 miles, in 14 theys.

amine the route for the land and an all laland, and crossed Iceland from Beru Fird to Reik; lavik, nearly 450 miles, in 14 days.

On the 8th of November, the Fox sailed from Julianshab, and after a run of 15 days, entered Portland Rends. The results of the cruise are universally conidered by those who accompanied the expedition, to be most satisfactory. Col. Shaffner's statements as to the existence of long deep flords, in which the water was so deep as to preclude the remotest possibility of a calle being injured by ice or icebergs, is fully confirmed. The existence of drift ice long the South coast, is in reality no difficulty; it only prevails at the commencement of the scason, except in an exceptional year, such as that recently experienced. With regard to the American terminus of the line, now that the Greenland difficulty has been removed, when once the line has been carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried there in the 50th par, of western longer than the same carried the same carri the American terminus of the line, now that the Green hand difficulty has been removed, when once the line has been carried there in the 50th par. of western longitude, the landing on the opposite shore can be se-acted on any point within some hundreds of miles without materially increasing the length of the circuit.

# BROOKLYN ITEMS.

THE OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS .- This boliday was generally observed throughout the city, the public offices and all places of business, excepting toy-abops and confectionaries, being closed. Services appropriate to the occasion were held in the churches during the forencon, nearly all of which were ornamented with evergreens, and several of them being fitted up with great taste. A number of the Sunday Schools assembled and enjoyed a feast of the good things, which are always forthcoming on the recurrence of this anniversary. The principal streets were thronged with people in search of recreation, and on visits to friends, while thousands of young men and boys repaired to the numerous ponds in the outer Wards, and enjoyed the day in skating. A large number journeyed to the New-York Central Park with the same object in view. The day passed off very pleasantly, with very little business for the police.

COMMISSIONERS OF DEEDS .- The Common Council at their last meeting adopted the report of the Law Committee, which limits the number of Commissi of Deeds in Brooklyn to 350. Of this number, ever 30 have been appointed, and new applications are to be acted upon at a future meetings

Fig. —A fire broke out in the drug-stere of Frederick Ayling, on the corner of Kent and Myrtle avenues, on Monday night, from the upsetting of a quantity of alcohol, which had become ignited. The darage occasioned amounts to about \$200, covered by insurance in the Lafayette Fire Insurance Company.

ARRESTS FOR PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONRY .-ARRESTS FOR PASSING COUNTERFEIT MORST.—
Other Johnson of the Night Fredhet arrested Patrick Keensa an Monday might for passing a counterfeit \$3 bill on the Commercial bank of Boston, at the store of Paul O'Neil, corner of Myrtle ovenue and Spencer street. It appearing that Keensan had obtained the bill in payment for money due him, he was discharged by the Justice. The same officer arrested Robert Smith for passing counterfeit \$3 bills on the Market Bank of New York. The secured had in his possession a counterfeathle amount of silver, a waich, and some small articles of recent parchases. He was committed for examination.

About one o'clock yesterday morning a fire occurred in Morris Roberts's dry-goods str, No. 181 Eighth avenue, but how or in what manner it originated is unknown. Before the firemen could extinguish the finance the stock was damaged to the amount of about \$1,500. Fully insured in the Commercial and other loss range Companies.

FIRE IN PEARL STREET. Yesterday afternoon a fire occurred in the bakery of H. J. Gracey, No. 530 Pearl street, but it was soon put out by a hose company lying in the vicinity. Damage slight. No alarm was given.

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